

**ATHERTON URBAN DISTRICT**

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# **ANNUAL REPORT**

of the

**Medical Officer of Health**

and

**Senior**

**Public Health Inspector**

for

**1969**



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**Atherton Urban District Council**

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**PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE**

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**Chairman:**

Councillor N. F. CHESTERFIELD

**Vice-Chairman:**

Councillor F. J. POYSER

**Councillors:**

F. FILDES	F LYTHGOE	J. SUMNER
W. GOULDEN	W. MURPHY	E. SWEENEY
G. GRIMSHAW	S. PICKARD	C. URMSTON
P. JONES	M. J. RIGBY	W. WILLIAMS
H. JONES	J. STAVELEY	
R. H. HAWKINS	H. H. SHARLAND	

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**PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS**

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MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH:

**E. TAYLOR, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.**

SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR:

**THOMAS McGUIRE, M.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H., I.S.A.A.(Dip.),  
Cert. R.S.H. for Meat Inspection**

ADDITIONAL PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR:

**ERIC WATT, M.A.P.H.I.  
Cert. R.S.H. for Meat Inspection.**

PUPIL PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR:

**W. S. GARSIDE**

AUTHORISED MEAT OFFICER:

**J. E. CLEMENT TO 1.3.69.  
G. OWEN FROM 23.3.69**

TECHNICAL ASSISTANT—CLEAN AIR:

**T. BLAKELEY**

CLERICAL ASSISTANT:

**MRS. A. HOPE**

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## SECTION A

### Statistics



## SECTION A

### STATISTICS

#### General Statistics

Area in acres—2,265.

Population—

1961 Census—19,755.

Mid-1969 Estimate—20,840.

Number of inhabited houses—7,565.

Rateable Value—£558,974, at 31st December, 1969.

Sum represented by a Penny Rate—£2,140 at 31st December, 1969.

#### Vital Statistics

##### Live Births:—

			Males	Females	Total
Legitimate	...	...	202	199	401
Illegitimate	...	...	7	12	19
			<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	Total	...	209	211	420
			<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

Live Birth Rate (per 1,000 population) ..... 20.2

##### Still Births:—

	Males	Females	Total
	5	-	5
Still Birth Rate (per 1,000 total births) .....			12

##### Deaths—All Causes:—

	Males	Females	Total
	177	181	358
Crude Death Rate (per 1,000 population) .....			17.2
Adjusted Death Rate (per 1,000 population) .....			14.4
Maternal Deaths .....			Nil
Maternal Death Rate (per 1,000 total births) ...			Nil

##### Infant Deaths—

Under 1 year of age .....	5
Under 4 weeks of age .....	3
Under 1 week of age .....	2
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 <b>live</b> births .....	12
Peri-Natal Mortality per 1,000 <b>Total</b> births .....	7

**TABLE I**  
**VITAL STATISTICS**

	• Live Births		Stillbirths		• Deaths (all causes)		Maternal Mortality		Infant Mortality Total		Nec-Natal Mortality	
	No. regis- tered	Rate per 1,000 pop'n	No. regis- tered	Rate per 1,000 total births	No. regis- tered	Rate per 1,000 pop'n	No. of deaths regis- tered	Rate per 1,000 total births	No. of deaths regis- tered	Rate per 1,000 live births	No. of deaths regis- tered	Rate per 1,000 live births
Year 1969 ...	401	20.2	5	12	358	14.4	Nil	Nil	5	12	2	7
Year 1968 .....	362	18.2	8	22	354	14.5	Nil	Nil	25	22	7	41
Year 1967 .....	364	18.4	13	34	289	12.9	Nil	Nil	7	11	7	37
Year 1966 .....	432	22.1	12	27	327	13.7	Nil	Nil	16	37	12	27.8
Year 1965 .....	367	19.1	7	18.7	277	12	Nil	Nil	10	27.2	7	19.1
Year 1964 .....	339	17.4	11	31.4	267	13.7	Nil	Nil	12	35.4	9	26.5

Live birth rate (comparability factor, 1.04)

Death rate (comparability factor, 0.85)

**TABLE II**  
**CAUSES OF DEATH DURING THE YEAR 1969**  
Registrar General's Return

	Males	Females
Malignant Neoplasms, Oesophagus .....	—	1
Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach .....	5	4
Malignant Neoplasm, Intestine .....	5	5
Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus .....	12	3
Malignant Neoplasm, Breast .....	—	11
Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus .....	—	2
Malignant Neoplasm, Prostate .....	1	—
Other Malignant Neoplasms .....	5	5
Diabetes Mellitus .....	2	3
Other Endocrine etc., Diseases .....	1	—
Mental Disorders .....	1	2
Other Diseases of Nervous System, etc. ...	4	2
Chronic Rheumatic Heart Disease .....	2	1
Hypertensive Disease .....	5	3
Ischaemic Heart Disease .....	61	32
Other Forms of Heart Disease .....	15	26
Cerebrovascular Disease .....	20	35
Other Diseases of Circulatory System .....	3	1
Influenza .....	1	—
Pneumonia .....	9	8
Bronchitis and Emphysema.....	9	8
Other Diseases of Respiratory System .....	5	2
Peptic Ulcer .....	1	—
Cirrhosis of Liver .....	—	1
Other Diseases of Digestive System .....	1	1
Nephritis and Nephrosis .....	1	—
Hyperplasia of Prostate .....	2	—
Other Complications of Pregnancy, etc.....	—	1
Diseases of Musculo-Skeletal System .....	—	5
Congenital Anomalies .....	—	1
Other Causes of Perinatal Mortality .....	—	2
Symptoms and Ill Defined Conditions .....	1	8
Motor Vehicle Accidents .....	2	1
All Other Accidents .....	3	6
Suicide and Self-Inflicted Injuries .....	—	1
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>177</b>	<b>181</b>

**TABLE III**  
**VITAL STATISTICS**

Birth and death rates, together with case rates for certain infectious diseases, for England and Wales, in the year 1969.  
(Provisional figures based on Registrar Generals Weekly and Quarterly Returns).  
Estimated home population mid-1969—48,826,800

	No.	Rate per 1,000 home population
<b>Births</b>		
Live Births .....	797,542	16.3
Stillbirths .....	10,662	13.0
<b>Deaths</b>		
All Causes .....	579,463	11.9
Tuberculosis (all forms) .....	1,840	0.038 (a)
Respiratory .....	1,092	0.022 (a)
Other .....	748	0.015 (a)
Cancer (all forms) .....	114,727	2.35 (a)
Lung and bronchus .....	29,763	0.61 (a)
Other cancer .....	84,964	1.74 (a)
Maternal mortality (total) .....	154	0.19 (b)
Maternal causes (excluding abortion) .....	119	0.15 (b)
Due to abortion .....	35	0.04 (b)
Infant mortality .....	14,397	18.0
Neo-natal mortality .....	9,603	12.0
Early neo-natal mortality .....	8,232	10.0
<b>Notifications (corrected)</b>		
Measles .....	142,020	2.909
Dysentery .....	22,114	0.453
Scarlet Fever .....	16,082	0.329
Whooping cough .....	4,991	0.102
Infective jaundice .....	23,569	0.483
Tuberculosis		
Respiratory .....	9,672	0.198
Meninges and C.N.S. ....	119	0.002
Other forms .....	2,371	0.049
Diphtheria .....	14	0.000
Tetanus .....	21	0.000
Acute meningitis .....	1,245	0.025
Acute encephalitis		
Infective .....	146	0.003
Post infectious .....	110	0.002
Ophthalmia neonatorum .....	434	0.009
Acute poliomyelitis		
Paralytic .....	9	0.000
Non-paralytic .....	1	0.000
Leptospirosis .....	28	0.001
Paratyphoid fever .....	193	0.004
Typhoid fever .....	162	0.003
Food poisoning .....	7,375	0.151
Anthrax .....	3	0.000
Smallpox .....	Nil	Nil
Plague .....	Nil	Nil
Cholera .....	Nil	Nil
Typhus fever .....	Nil	Nil
Relapsing fever .....	Nil	Nil
Yellow fever .....	Nil	Nil

(a) Per 1,000 home population.

(b) Per 1,000 total (live and still) births.

## **SECTION B**

### **General Provision of Health Services for the Area**





## **SECTION B**

### **HEALTH SERVICES**

#### **Ambulance**

Atherton Ambulance Station, Back Orchard Lane. Tel. Swinton 4343.

#### **Care of Children—Children Act, 1948**

Children's Committee, Lancashire County Council. Area Children's Officer: W. N. Ritchie, Williams Deacons Bank Chambers, Leigh. Tel. Leigh 74121.

##### **1. ANTE-NATAL**

Alder House Midwifery Clinic.  
Each Tuesday, 10-30 a.m. to 11-30 a.m.

##### **2. DIPHTHERIA, WHOOPING COUGH, TETANUS AND POLIOMYELITIS IMMUNISATION**

- (i) Every Monday and Wednesday afternoon.
- (ii) General Practitioner Service.

##### **3. MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE**

Alder House Clinic.  
Each Monday and Wednesday, 1-30 to 3-30 p.m.

##### **4. OPHTHALMIC**

Alder House Clinic, by appointment.  
Each Tuesday morning.

##### **5. ORTHOPAEDIC**

Elliot Street Clinic, Tyldesley, by appointment.  
Friday afternoon of each month.

##### **6. CERVICAL CYTOLOGY**

Alder House Clinic.  
By appointment.

##### **7. SCHOOL HEALTH AND MINOR AILMENT**

Alder House Clinic.  
By appointment.

8. **SPEECH THERAPY**  
Earl Street Clinic, Leigh, by appointment.
9. **CHEST CLINIC**  
Chest Clinic, Leigh Infirmary, Leigh.
10. **VENEREAL DISEASES**
  - (i) Civic Centre, Bolton.  
Males and Females: Monday to Friday, 9-30 a.m. to 12-30 p.m.  
Monday, Wednesday, and Friday 4-30 to 6-30 p.m.  
Males and Females: Saturday, 9 a.m. to 11 a.m.
  - (ii) Royal Albert Edward Infirmary, Wigan.  
Males: Friday, 2 to 6-30 p.m.  
Females: Wednesday, 2 to 6 p.m.
  - (iii) Leigh Infirmary, Leigh.  
Males and Females: Monday, 9-30 to 10-30 a.m.

### **Convalescence**

Under arrangements made by the Lancashire C.C. through the Divisional Medical Officer.

### **Convalescent Treatment**

Under arrangements made by the Regional Hospital Board through the Local Hospital Management Committee.

### **Health Visiting Service**

Full-time Health Visitors/School Nurses are employed in the area by the Lancashire C.C.

### **Home Help Service**

Provided by the Lancashire C.C. Apply to Divisional Medical Officer, Leigh Road, Leigh.

Also Fridays only at Alder House Clinic.

### **Home Nursing Service**

District Nurses employed by the Lancashire C.C. are available in the district.

## **Hospitals**

### **1. GENERAL**

Leigh Infirmary, Atherleigh Hospital, Astley Hospital.

### **2. INFECTIOUS DISEASE**

Hulton Lane Fever Hospital, Bolton; Whelley Hospital, Wigan.

### **3. MATERNITY**

Billinge Hospital, Billinge.

## **Laboratory Facilities**

Regional Hospital Board Laboratories at Bolton, Leigh and Wigan Infirmaries and the Withington Laboratory of the Public Health Laboratory Service.

## **Maternity Homes**

Firs Maternity Home, Leigh.

## **Midwifery Service**

Domiciliary midwives employed whole-time in the area by Lancashire C.C.

## **Nursing Homes**

None in the district.

## **Unmarried Mothers and Illegitimate Children**

Provision for their care is made by the Lancashire C.C., in conjunction with voluntary organisations.

## **Moral Welfare**

Miss Johnson, 186 Chapel Street, Leigh, Monday to Friday, Mornings: 11 a.m. to 12 noon. Interviews by appointment. Tel. Leigh 71061.

## **Welfare Services**

Under arrangements made by the Lancashire C.C.  
Residential accommodation under Divisional arrangements.

## **X-ray Facilities**

At Leigh and Wigan Infirmaries. Facilities for special chest cases at the Chest Clinic, Leigh Infirmary, Leigh.



## SECTION C

Prevalence of and Control

over

Infectious and other Diseases

## **SECTION C**

### **INFECTIOUS DISEASES**

#### **Diphtheria**

There were no notifications of this disease this year. Following the previous year's outbreak great stress was again placed on the need to continue and attain 100% immunisation. This is always available at Alder House Clinic.

#### **Dysentery**

No cases notified for the year

#### **Food Poisoning**

Two notifications for the year.

#### **Measles**

38 cases notified for the year, being a reduction of 250 over the previous year. No cases occurred in ages over 10 years.

#### **Meningococcal Infection**

Again no notifications during the year.

#### **Paratyphoid Fever**

No notifications of this disease for the year.

#### **Poliomyelitis**

No cases notified for the year. Oral vaccine available at Alder House Clinic.

#### **Scarlet Fever**

22 cases notified for the year as against 12 cases in the previous year.

#### **Smallpox**

No cases or surveillance contacts during the year.

#### **Tuberculosis**

Four cases of Respiratory tuberculosis reported during the year.

#### **Typhoid Fever**

No notifications for the year.

#### **Whooping Cough**

Four notifications for the year.

TABLE IV

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES DURING THE YEAR, 1969

DISEASE	CASES NOTIFIED												
	Total Cases at all ages	Years											
		Under 1	1—2	2—3	3—4	4—5	5—10	10—15	15—20	20—35	35—45	45—65	65 & over
Diphtheria .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Enteric Fever .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Food Poisoning .....	2	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Infective Hepatitis .....	6	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	2
Measles, excl. German Measles	38	3	7	8	4	8	8	—	—	—	—	—	—
Meningococcal Infection .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Polio-encephalitis .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever .....	22	1	3	2	—	4	11	—	—	1	—	—	—
Smallpox .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough .....	5	1	—	3	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Malaria (contracted abroad) ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pulmonary Tuberculosis—													
Males .....	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Females .....	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	1	—
Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis—													
Males .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Females .....	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—
TOTALS .....	79	5	10	14	4	14	20	—	2	5	1	2	2



TABLE V

Table relating to Vital Statistics and Notified Infectious Diseases in other years

Year	Birth-rate	Death-rate		Infantile Mortality Rate	Diphtheria		Diarrhoea & Enteritis (under two years)	Measles		Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis		Pulmonary Tuberculosis		Scarlet Fever		Typhoid Fever	
		Actual	Adjusted		Cases	Deaths		Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths
1900	36.7	16.49	...	161.6	3	3	14	...	...	...	...	...	...	29	...	13	2
1905	30.9	13.7	...	141.8	40	3	34	...	5	...	...	...	...	55	1	17	5
1910	26.47	14.67	...	154.1	20	2	15	...	6	...	...	...	...	88	...	19	3
1915	25.44	13.11	...	103.09	31	3	13	...	9	...	13	44	...	100	...	7	2
1920	24.1	12.1	...	109	24	...	9	...	2	23	8	25	...	49	...	2	2
1925	15.4	10.9	...	63	29	3	3	...	1	11	5	28	...	52	...	1	1
1930	15.3	10.6	...	61	8	...	...	...	5	15	4	18	...	42	...	1	...
1935	13.3	12.6	14.3	73	10	3	1	...	3	9	1	15	...	78	...	...	...
1938	13.6	10.2	11.6	42	127	7	...	...	5	9	2	8	...	37	...	...	...
1940	15.5	12.0	...	35	9	...	3	...	...	8	1	7	...	88	...	...	...
1943	18.2	12.8	...	74	12	2	2	...	...	8	3	11	...	49	...	...	...
1944	16.29	11.86	...	60	8	...	1	...	...	7	2	9	...	70	...	...	...
1945	17.9	11.3	...	23	2	...	...	...	...	8	2	7	...	42	...	...	...
1946	17.6	10.9	...	33	5	...	...	...	...	8	2	12	...	22	...	...	...
1947	19.7	13.3	...	50	1	...	1	...	...	7	...	11	...	79	...	...	...
1955	12.6	13.0	14.0	12	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	15	...	22	...	...	...
1957	14.6	15.8	17.4	42	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10	...	46	...	...	...
1958	16.5	14.3	14.3	18.4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	14	...	19	...	...	...
1959	15.6	15.4	15.1	6.5	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	12	...	31	...	...	...
1960	16.5	12.7	12.7	21.4	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	8	...	29	...	...	...
1961	16.2	14.1	14.6	28	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	...	1	...	...	...
1962	18.1	15.9	15.3	22.3	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	5	...	21	...	...	...
1963	17.7	14.4	14.1	26.6	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	8	...	3	...	...	...
1964	17.4	13.7	14.1	35.4	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	5	...	5	...	...	...
1965	19.1	13.9	12.0	27.2	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	4	...	12	...	...	...
1966	22.1	16.1	13.7	37	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7	...	55	...	...	...
1967	18.4	14.1	12.9	37	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	...	41	...	...	...
1968	18.2	17.1	14.5	41	8	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	12	...	...	...
1969	20.2	17.2	14.4	7	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	4	...	22	...	...	...



## SECTION D

### Sanitary Circumstances of the Area

## **SECTION D**

### **SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA**

#### **Water Supply**

The Town's water supply is derived from the Thirlmere and Haweswater catchment areas and is the responsibility of the Manchester Corporation Water Undertaking. All premises in the town are connected to this supply and there are no wells or other private supplies.

Although complaints have been received in respect of abnormal colour these have been due to repair or maintenance work being carried out and the matter has been resolved quite rapidly.

Periodic sampling throughout the year of the supply has produced satisfactory analytical reports.

#### **Streams**

The streams and water courses that flow through the town are regularly checked for pollution and the Engineers Department of this Authority and that of the Mersey and Weaver Rivers Board ensure that the sewer storm water overflow discharges comply with the requirements of the Rivers (Prevention of Pollution) Act.

There are no dye works or chemical works in the town and consequently no problem presents itself from resultant effluents.

These water courses do, however, continue to be the target for the indiscriminate dumping of miscellaneous rubbish which chokes and impedes the flow of these streams.

#### **Drainage and Sewerage**

The drainage and sewerage is mainly of the type known as the combined system. New developments, however, have separate systems for surface water and sewage in order to comply with Byelaws made under the Highways Act as extended by the Public Health Act of 1961.

With the exception of a small number of residential properties lying on the outskirts of the town, which are served by septic tanks, all sewage is treated by the Leigh and Atherton Joint Sewerage Board at the works off Mather Lane at Leigh.

## Sanitary Accommodation

At the end of 1969 the approximate numbers and types of closet accommodation were as follows:

Number of Privy Middens .....	Nil
Number of Pail Closets .....	Nil
Number of Trough Closets .....	Nil
Number of Waste-Water Closets .....	Nil
Number of Freshwater Closets .....	8,770
Number of Dry Ashpits .....	Nil
Number of moveable Ashbins .....	7,910
Number of Houses on Water Carriage System .....	7,545

Conversions during 1969:—

Number of Waste Water Closets to Fresh- water Closets .....	84
--	----

Number of Waste Water Closets Demolished	Nil
--	-----

The continuance during the year of the Council's scheme to eradicate the remaining waste water closets was brought to a successful conclusion.

## Disinfestation

Residual spray insecticides, insecticidal laquers and powders were again the main weapons used by the Department in its treatment of infested premises. This treatment is carried out in dwelling houses as a free service but a charge is made in respect of labour and material involved at business premises.

Any infested clothing or furniture is either destroyed or disinfested through the services of Bolton C.B.C.

## Public Cleansing

The Chief Public Health Inspector controls the collection and disposal of house refuse at Swan Island Quarry Refuse Tip.

Refuse disposal at Swan Island Quarry is the subject of a Joint Tipping agreement with Tyldesley U.D.C. and is carried on by the controlled tipping method. All control, grading, soiling, etc. was carried out by a J.C.B. mechanical shovel although during the latter part of the year this was replaced by a Bristol Taurus MK II tracked mechanical shovel fitted with a 4 in 1 bucket.

Refuse collection is effected by a continuous round system using three rear loading Pakamatic continuous compression vehicles.

The service, however, continued suffering the problems of vehicle breakdown, staff sickness, etc.

In an effort to provide a better service, householders were issued with plastic liners to use in conjunction with their ashbins during the two local holiday weeks. The reaction from both public and staff to this scheme was most favourable.

Occupiers of dwelling houses were again permitted to dispose of miscellaneous refuse at the tip, free of charge.

Waste paper is salvaged and baled with the object of minimising the amount of combustible material to be accommodated at the refuse tip. The amount of paper baled during the year, unfortunately suffered a reduction as a result of staff sickness and the consequent lack of labour required to operate the baling press.

### **Factories and Workplaces**

Inspections made under the Factories Act through the year again revealed acceptable standards in the district.

Management are aware of their responsibilities under the Act and it was not found necessary to resort to any formal proceedings during the year.

### **Rodent Control**

The Council employ a full time rodent operator to carry out baiting and treatment at domestic, business and industrial premises within the district.

The service was affected by absence of the operative due to sickness but obligations continued to be met during that period by the Health Department Staff.

In accordance with the requirements of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food a twice yearly treatment of the sewers in the district is carried out.

Monthly contracts made with various industries continue to be met.

The resistance to Warfarin noted in 1968 continues and although alternative formulations have been introduced none have proved so universally effective as Warfarin has been. The control of rats using other anti-coagulant poisons has been quite successful but it has been found necessary in many cases to resort to the use of acute poisons for the eradication of mice.



Table VII enumerates the details required to be submitted to the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food in compliance with the Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949.

## **Swimming Baths**

The Public Swimming Baths situated in Mayfield Street, near the centre of the town is owned and maintained by the Council. The Council employ a qualified Baths Superintendent to control and manage the Baths.

The 76,000 gallons of water required is obtained solely from the town mains supply and is sand filtered and chlorinated to a break-point of 2 parts per million before discharge into the plunge.

In addition to the daily dosage tests and recordings made by the Baths Superintendent the Public Health Department take samples of the water for bacteriological examination. All samples taken during the year have proved satisfactory.

## **Schools**

All twelve schools in the district are served with water from the town mains supply and are drained into the main sewer system.

All schools have flush toilets, drinking water, wash hand basins, etc., although the standard of these facilities varies considerably with the age of the building.

The older premises where facilities are less satisfactory are scheduled on a priority basis.

The number of schools in the district has increased by one due to the completion during the year of the Leigh St. Mary's School on Leigh Road.

## **Offensive Trades**

There are no offensive trade establishments in the town.

## **Houses in Multiple Occupation**

There are no houses in multiple occupation or common lodging houses in the district.

## **Rag Flock Act**

One shop is registered under the Act, and the use of synthetic materials increases the degree of control.

**TABLE VI**  
**FACTORIES ACT, 1961**

	Number on Register	Number of Inspections	Number of Written Notices	Number of Occupiers prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities .....	7	10	2	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority .....	75	83	19	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Sec- tion 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding Outworkers' Premises) .....	4	6	1	—
Total ...	86	99	22	—

**Defects Found in Factories and Workshops**  
**Nuisances under the Public Health and Factory Acts—**

	Found	Abated	Referred by H.M. Inspector
Want of Cleanliness .....	12	9	3
Inadequate Ventilation .....	—	—	—
Unreasonable Temperature .....	—	—	—
Drainage of Floors .....	3	3	—
Overcrowding .....	—	—	—
Sanitary Accommodation—			
Insufficient .....	2	2	—
Unsuitable or Defective ...	9	7	2
Not separate for sexes .....	2	1	—
Other Offences against the Act .....	—	—	—
Total ...	28	22	5

**TABLE VII**

**PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949**

		TYPE OF PROPERTY	
		Non-	Agricultural
		Agricultural	Agricultural
(I) Number of Rodent Operatives employed—One.			
(II) Properties other than Sewers:			
(a) Number of properties in district .....	9054	9	
(b) Total number of properties inspected following notification .....	321	—	
(c) Number of (b) infested by rats .....	187	—	
mice .....	134	—	
(d) Number of properties inspected for rats and for mice for reasons other than notification .....	7	2	
(e) Number of (d) infected by mice .....	4	1	
rats .....	2	2	
(III) Sewer Treatment—			

The sewers of the town were treated twice during the year.





## SECTION E

### Inspection and Supervision of Food



## SECTION E.

### INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

#### Places under Inspection

The number of food premises, by type of business, at end of 1969 were as follows:

Grocers .....	84
Bakers and/or Confectioners .....	18
Confectioners (sweets, minerals, ice cream), etc. ....	42
Fried Fish Shops .....	17
Meat Shops (butchers, purveyors of cooked meat, tripe, etc.) .....	21
Greengrocers .....	9
Fishmongers .....	7
Canteens, Snack Bars and Licensed Premises .....	48
Others .....	4

Premises registered under the provisions of the Lancashire County Council (Rivers Board and General Powers) Act, 1951, include:—

	No. of Premises	No. of Inspections during 1969
Hawkers—Fish, Fruit and Vegetables	7	17
„ Meat and Meat Products	3	7
Bakehouses .....	12	15
Fried Fish Shops .....	17	24
Sausages, etc., Preparing Premises ...	16	23
Cooked Meat Preparing Premises ...	3	16
Ice Cream Shops .....	48	61

#### Food Premises

The inspection of premises used for the manufacture, preparation, sale and storage of food continued throughout the year.

The awareness of Management of its responsibilities and its growing desire to be associated with clean premises effected the maintenance of a quite good standard in the town. It was not found necessary to resort to any formal proceedings since such infringements that did occur were rectified upon informal action.

Regular visits to food premises need to be maintained, however, not only to obtain rectification of infringements but also to avoid complacency on the part of food handlers. Familiarity breeds contempt, resulting in bad practices regarded as insignificant by food handlers but which can be hazardous to clean food production if allowed to become established.

Cases of foreign bodies, adulteration, and labelling are dealt with by the Health Department in collaboration with the officers of the Lancashire County Council Food and Drugs Inspectorate. Details of sampling carried out during the year are embodied in this report.

## Slaughterhouses

Cattle, Sheep and calves are slaughtered at two privately owned slaughterhouses in the district. Slaughtering takes place on a six day week basis and the Council employ an Authorised Meat Inspector who is in attendance at all times except for holiday periods and Saturdays when relief is provided by the Public Health Inspectors on a rota system.

All carcase meat and organs are examined in accordance with the Meat Inspection Regulations 1963 and 1966 to ascertain fitness for human consumption. Details of the numbers slaughtered during the year are given in this report.

The quality of carcase meat continued to be high and only 6 calves, and 48 sheep, whole carcasses were condemned.

The standards of hygiene and construction and the implementation of the Regulations is supervised by the Health Department Inspector on duty at the time.

	Cattle (excl. cows)	Cows	Calves	Sheep
No. Slaughtered .....	3413	576	1058	27401
No. Inspected .....	3413	576	1058	27401

### All Diseases other than T.B.

Whole Carcasses condemned ...	—	—	6	48
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ...	715	325	6	5163
Percentage of No. Inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis .....	20.9	32.4	1.1	19.0

### Tuberculosis only

Whole Carcasses condemned ...	—	1	—	—
Carcasses of which part or organ was condemned .....	—	1	—	—

### Cysticercosis

Carcasses of which part or organ was condemned .....	2	—	—	—
---	---	---	---	---

**Milk Supply**

The Lancashire County Council are the responsible Authority for the issue of licences in relation to the production and sale of milk.

All milk sold in the area complies with the requirements of the Milk (Special Designation) Regulations and is sampled by officers of the Lancashire County Council and the Public Health Department for chemical and bacteriological analysis and examination.

The Lancashire County Council is also responsible for the organisation and control of the school milk service.

	Total No. of Samples	Positive	RESULT Negative	Void
(1) Samples for biological examination:				
(a) Tuberculosis .....	6	—	6	—
(b) Brucellosis:				
Ring Test .....	25	4	21	—
Culture Test .....	25	2	23	—

	No. of Samples	Satisfactory	RESULT Unsatisfactory	Void
(2) Raw Milk:				
Methylene Blue Test	10	10	—	—
(3) Heat Treated Milk:				
(a) Methylene Blue Test...	3	3	—	—
(b) Phosphatase Test .....	3	3	—	—

**Food Inspection**

Formal action under the Food and Drugs Act 1955 for the service and condemnation of unsound food has not been necessary during the year.

Foodstuffs voluntarily surrendered are inspected and is collected and disposed of under the supervision of the Department's Officers.

The details of the various foods voluntarily surrendered are given below.

## Food Inspection

	Number	Weight
Soups .....	89	46 lbs.
Tinned Meats .....	524	343 lbs.
Tinned Fruits .....	585	312 lbs.
Tinned Vegetables .....	488	250 lbs.
Others (fish, tomatoes, etc.) .....	106	82 lbs.

## FOOD & DRUGS ACT, 1955

A total of 62 samples was obtained comprising 31 milks and 31 others as follows:—

1 Meat and Potato Pie	1 Tomato Pureè, canned
1 Breakfast Cereal	1 Steak & Kidney Pie, canned
1 Tomato Soup, canned	1 Lentils
1 Raspberries, canned	1 Headache Tablets
1 Prawns, canned	1 Milk Chocolate
1 Tuna, canned	1 Parazolidin Tablets
1 Steak and Kidney Puddings	1 Grapefruit Juice, canned
1 Blackberries, canned	1 Soup, canned
2 Soft Drinks	1 Table Sweet
1 Shandy	1 Crumble Mix
2 Ice Lollies	1 Table Jelly
1 Lard	1 Cream, Fresh
1 Semolina	1 Salmon Spread
1 Plums, canned	1 Potato Crisps
	1 Tomatoes, canned

I give below details of those samples on which the County Analyst gave adverse reports:—

Sample	Result of Analysis	Action Taken
Meat & Potato Pie	Contained 2 fragments of dextrinised organic matter of vegetable origin with a surface film of aluminium paint and a piece of sawdust weighing in all 38 milligrams.	Prosecution— Fined £9 Costs £10 7s. 0d.
Informal milk	Freezing point indicates 0.5% extraneous water.	Dairy cautioned & further sample obtained.
Potato Crisps	Contained a moulted exoskeleton of a spider and weighed approximately $\frac{1}{3}$ of a milligram. It had not been heated and contained no fat.	Complainant & manufacturer informed.





## SECTION F

### Housing



## SECTION F

### HOUSING

Number of New Houses erected during the year:—	Houses	Flats
--	--------	-------

(i) By the Local Authority .....	4	24
(ii) By other Local Authorities ..	—	—
(iii) By other bodies or persons .....	81	—

#### 1. Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the Year:—

(1) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected formally or informally for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) .....		493
(b) Number of inspections, formal or informal, made for the purpose.....		663
(2) Dwelling-houses unfit for human habitation and not capable at reasonable expense of being rendered fit:		
(a) Number dealt with during the Year .....		19
(b) Number (or estimated number) at end of year		152
(3) Number of dwelling-houses found during the year to be not in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation but capable of being rendered fit.....		317

#### 2. Clearance Areas (Housing Act, 1957 and 1961):—

(1) Number of dwelling-houses demolished during year:		
(a) Unfit houses .....		17
(b) Other houses .....		1
(2) Number of persons displaced .....		36
(3) Families .....		13

#### 3. Houses not included in Clearance Areas:—

	No. of houses	No. of persons displaced
(1) Houses demolished or closed during year:— Housing Act, 1957:—		
(i) Demolished as a result of formal or informal procedure ...	1	—
(ii) Closed in pursuance of an undertaking given by owners under Section 16 and still in force .....	2	5

(2) Repairs during the year:—

	*No. of houses
(a) Unfit houses rendered fit and houses in which defects were remedied during the period as a result of informal action by the Local Authority under the Housing or Public Health Acts .....	34
(b) Public Health Acts—action after service of formal notice—Houses in which defects were remedied:—	
(i) By owners .....	5
(ii) By Local Authority in default of owners...	—
(c) Housing Act, 1957—action after service of formal notice (Sections 9, 10, 11):— Houses made fit:—	
(i) By owners .....	1
(ii) By Local Authority in default of owners...	—
<b>4. Unfit houses in temporary use (Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954):—</b>	
(1) Number of houses at end of year retained for temporary accommodation and approved for grant under Section 7 .....	Nil
(2) Number of separate dwellings contained in (1) above	Nil
(3) Number of houses at end of year licensed for temporary occupation (Section 6) .....	Nil

\*A defective house remedied more than once during the year is included once only.

**Housing Act, 1949—Improvement Grants, etc.**

Action during the year:—

	No. of Schemes	No. of Dwellings Affected
(a) Submitted by private individuals to Local Authority .....	14	14
(b) Approved by Local Authority .....	14	14
(c) Submitted by L.A. to Ministry .....	—	—
(d) Approved by the Ministry .....	—	—
(e) Works completed .....	14	14

## House Purchase & Housing Act, 1959—

### Standard Grants—

	No. of Dwellings Affected
(a) Applications submitted to L.A. ....	81
(b) Applications approved by L.A. ....	81
(c) Work completed .....	81

### General Inspections

Houses (including re-visits) .....	1955
Schools .....	21
Factories and workplaces .....	129
Bakehouses .....	120
Food preparing premises and shops .....	212
Miscellaneous, etc. ....	362
Slaughterhouses .....	11
Inspectorial .....	831
	<hr/>
	3641
	<hr/>

In connection with these inspections, the following nuisances and defects were found and remedied, viz.:—

	Found	Remedied
House roofs in need of repair .....	67	61
Defective W.C.s.....	38	38
Choked or defective drains .....	32	32
Insanitary conditions of yards .....	4	3
Defective plaster on walls, etc. ....	75	71
House walls damp .....	69	60
Defective eaves gutters .....	18	13
Defective windows, etc. ....	30	26
Animals kept as to be a nuisance .....	1	1
Miscellaneous (floors, stairs, etc.) .....	85	79
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	419	384
	<hr/>	<hr/>

Arising from these nuisances and defects, the following notices were served, viz.:

Informal .....	248
Statutory .....	8



## SECTION G

### Atmospheric Pollution and Smoke Abatement





## SECTION G

### ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION AND SMOKE ABATEMENT

#### Atmospheric Pollution

3053 dwellings in the town are covered by 4 operative Smoke Control Areas. Although the No. 5 Area was to have become operative on the 1st November, 1969, the Council determined to defer the operative date until 1st June, 1970.

On the 10th December, 1969, the Council made the No. 6 Smoke Control Area and proposed that this becomes operative on 1st July, 1971.

The acreage covered to date is 1610, the operation of the No. 5 Area will add 115 acres, and the No. 6 Area a further 263 acres giving a total of 1988 acres and 5068 dwellings. The area of the town is given as 2265 acres and the number of inhabited dwellings as 7565.

Daily readings are taken at the two atmospheric pollution stations in the town and the data obtained is forwarded to the D.S.I.R. Laboratory at Warren Springs for inclusion in their statistics.

Tables of recordings summarised as monthly averages are contained herein.

Average daily amounts of pollution  
in microgrammes per cubic metre  
of air

	Smoke		Sulphur Dioxide	
	Town Hall	Parks Garage	Town Hall	Parks Garage
January .....	247	267	184	89
February .....	269	206	177	97
March .....	198	130	136	90
April .....	138	80	107	65
May .....	116	49	92	49
June .....	72	33	59	39
July .....	34	23	45	31
August .....	54	30	57	33
September ...	109	56	78	51
October .....	112	70	100	48
November ...	182	99	109	54
December ...	263	153	143	65

(2) Tables for 1966, 1967, and 1968.

Tables showing the average daily amount of pollution for the years: 1966, 1967, 1968, expressed as microgrammes per cubic metre

	1966			1967			1968					
	Smoke		Sulphur Dioxide	Smoke		Sulphur Dioxide	Smoke		Sulphur Dioxide			
	Town Hall	Parks Garage	Town Hall Parks Garage	Town Hall	Parks Garage	Town Hall Parks Garage	Town Hall	Parks Garage	Town Hall Parks Garage			
January .....	310	322	260	170	206	207	247	103	212	178	135	70
February .....	234	199	194	132	82	115	193	81	312	270	218	140
March .....	212	111	165	61	73	45	104	60	152	138	74	54
April .....	145	128	143	108	79	64	98	57	132	122	102	102
May .....	95	53	147	88	87	66	86	76	126	117	76	68
June .....	58	32	99	65	41	29	56	51	37	62	21	42
July .....	30	23	47	38	18	19	32	44	68	66	36	52
August .....	87	63	102	54	72	42	81	62	51	43	32	39
September ...	131	99	166	99	83	70	104	58	98	84	68	43
October .....	193	171	203	91	117	70	89	46	186	127	120	61
November ...	223	199	196	83	340	260	258	141	246	157	196	89
December ...	198	135	184	52	237	148	174	49	273	183	203	88



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